

# EASTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Email: [eastingtonparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:eastingtonparishcouncil@gmail.com)

## **Minutes of the Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2016 at 7.00pm in Eastington Methodist Hall**

- 1 **Attendance and apologies for absence** In attendance Cllrs Bullock (Chair), Corrie (Vice-Chair), Allen, Cozens, Loveridge, Bomberg and Simmons. There were 15 members of the public. Also present County Councillor Lesley Williams, District Councillors Stephen Davies and John Jones.
  - 2 **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda.** Cllr Loveridge declared an interest in agenda items 9.3 (Finance) and 11 (Co-option).
  - 3 **Chairman's announcements** – Cllr Bullock noted that at the next meeting Council will be asked to consider a change of meeting day to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month along with change of venue.
  - 4 **Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2016:** RESOLVED to accept the minutes.
  - 5 **Outstanding actions from previous meeting:** None outstanding.
  - 6 **Changes to the order of business.** Cllr Bullock proposed bringing forward the Co-option agenda from item 11; Cllr Allen requested the Planning item to be considered prior to Co-option as she wished to speak regarding planning. Cllr Allen explained that she has been on the NDP steering group for a long time and felt that Council should consider what is needed from the Council going forward to ensure that Council has the skills available to make sure the NDP remains a priority. Cllr Bullock answered as Chair of Planning Committee: there have been four occasions where Council has been successful with planning appeals, and has an experienced Clerk who worked on the NDP and Council also has access to planning consultants. Cllr Allen feels that Council should not rely on planning consultants and we need to make sure that Council has skills and knowledge to respond effectively to planning applications. Cllr Loveridge suggested that Cllr Allen join the Planning Committee. Cllr Loveridge also suggested that Cllr Allen has a conflict of interest in relation to two of the co-option candidates. Cllr Cozens stated that the general skill-set of the candidates is important going forward. The Clerk read out the definition of Personal Interests and the definition of a "close associate".
7. **To discuss filling of casual vacancies by co-option (2 vacancies)**  
Candidates were invited to address the Council prior to Council's consideration and vote. One of the candidates was unavailable to attend the meeting and the Clerk read out a short statement. Following the voting process, Sharon Wells and Mark Chatterley were co-opted onto the Council.

The meeting was opened up for Public question time.

Mr & Mrs Knight were present; they have recently purchased the Bungalow on Bath Road and would like to build a single dwelling with detached garage slightly bigger than the existing bungalow and brought plans along to show the Council.

Mr Low reported that Brownings Orchard is now leased to Eastington Community Orchard group for 30 years. Cottsway Housing also donated £1000 to the Orchard group.

Mr Sean Bryan and his partner were present regarding Mill Cottage's retrospective planning application and asked that when the Parish Council discuss and debate planning applications and only consider factual information and not opinions. Cllr Bullock responded that the Council can only comment on applications in line with planning policy. The Planning Committee meetings are open to the public; Mr Bryan was unaware that he was able to attend the Council meetings. He also pointed out that his self-build has not taken up 2 parking spaces; the condition attached to Millend Mill was to provide 8 parking spaces and 8 parking spaces remain. Mr Bryan's comments were taken on board and will be considered

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during the Planning item. Mr Low requested that the letter from Millend resident Mr Mannings be read out at the same time as the correspondence from Mr Bryan.

**To receive a report from County Councillor Lesley Williams:** Cllr Williams recently had a drive-around the parish with the Highways Local Manager and several issues were identified; it was noted that Bath Road will be resurfaced during 2016/17. Cllr Williams shared the Council's frustration at the slow speed of items being addressed. There will be Ecotricity coverage in the Stroud News & Journal tomorrow. The Parish Council submitted comments to the reporter mainly regarding the transport issues. Stonehouse has their horticultural show this coming weekend.

**To receive a report from the District Councillors:** Cllr Stephen Davies wished the Council good luck with the NDP referendum on 18<sup>th</sup> August. Planning Officers will receive training on NDP policies when considering planning applications. Cllr Allen and Cllr Davies have attended several meetings with different agencies following the District Council's outline approval to build 3 industrial units on flood plain at Meadow Mill, this is in preparation for the 'reserved matters' stage. Highways England has requested a further 3 month delay before making a full response on the Ecotricity planning application; Highways Gloucestershire is also still working through the transport matters. New waste service leaflets have been distributed and the District Councillors can assist if there are any issues with the new service. Cllr John Jones asked if the Parish Council is signed up to the District Council's pre-application protocol (yes). Cllr Jones has been working with the legal department and licensing department regarding Chinese lanterns and the issue they can cause by catching crops on fire and the thin wire that forms the lanterns. SDC has issued guidance on how and when to use the lanterns and the alternatives available.

## 8. Planning

8.1 The Council considered the following planning applications:

Date rec'd	Application No:	Address	Details	Comments
20-07-16	S.16/1541/HHOLD	2 Buckingham Close	Two storey side extension	No objections.
26-07-16	S.16/1566/LBC	Alkerton Green House	Replacement of porch	No objections.

8.2 The Council noted the comments from the owner of Mill Cottage and reviewed the Council's comments submitted in June 2016. Following consideration of comments from residents, the owner and the comments from the Conservation Officer, Council took a vote on the removal of its objection to the planning application. Council voted 5 in favour and 2 against the removal of the planning objection. **Action: Clerk.**

8.3 The Council will not attend the DCC meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> August now that it has removed its objection of the Mill Cottage application. **Action: Clerk.**

## 9. Groups / Meetings / Reports

9.1 Cllr Allen gave a verbal update from the Getting Around Group; Bath Road will be resurfaced in 2016/17 and the road from Alkerton Cross to Chipman's Platt will be resurfaced 2017/18. The Eastington Approaches to Road Safety Group will be organising a public meeting in September to discuss car parking, speed camera and village gateways among other road safety initiatives.

9.2 Cllr Allen noted that a written report will be available at the next meeting from the Churchyard & Burial Ground Group.

9.3 Cllr Corrie gave a verbal update from the Resources Group; the Group looked at extending its responsibility to the trees on the common land (village greens); examining the condition of the bus shelters, and identifying hedges that have become overgrown.

9.4 The Council received the latest monthly report from SDC Neighbourhood Warden.

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- 9.5 Cllr Bomberg gave feedback from the Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils AGM held on 16<sup>th</sup> July; the Parish Council put forward a proposal to retain rural identities of settlements like Eastington and this received support and will be taken to the National Association of Local Councils to lobby government. Cllr Bomberg also passed on the thanks of the Parish Council to GAPTC for the training provided.

## 10. Finance

- 10.1 The Clerk circulated an update on 2016/17 budget versus spend, and bank reconciliation as at 31<sup>st</sup> July 2016.
- 10.2 The Council approved the payment of Clerk's expenses for July 2016 at £124.90 and these will be paid with the August payroll.
- 10.3 The Council approved the accounts for payment, schedule circulated prior to meeting:

Payee	Details	Amount	Budget
Salaries & Expenses	June 2016 Expenses plus July 2016 Salary	£1215.93	Parish Admin
Post Office Ltd	PAYE & NI payments to HMRC for July 2016	£267.05	Parish Admin
British Heart Foundation	Contribution to Defibrillators	£1200	Parish Admin
Eastington Methodist Church	Hall Hire July 2016	£10.00	Hall Hire
Getmapping Plc	Parish Online annual fee	£33.60	Parish Admin
Staples UK Ltd	Printer, paper, clipboard	£113.41	Parish Admin
Alan Loveridge	July Grass Cutting	£1135	Grass cutting
NEST	Pensions for July 2016	£106.41	Parish Admin
Vodafone	Parish Mobile	£48.99	Parish Admin
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£4130.39</b>	

- 10.4 The Council received the Clerk's timesheet for July 2016.
- 10.5 The Council noted that a new office printer has been purchased and agreed the disposal of the old office printer and authorised the Clerk to use discretion in the second hand value. **Action: Clerk.**
- 10.6 The Council noted the completion of the Annual Audit for 2015/16 from the external auditor with no matters to address, and the Clerk was thanked for her work on the accounts.
- 10.7 The Council agreed that the relevant Council Policy will reflect the requirement for Councillor email addresses.
- 10.8 The Council noted that the Council Policies are due for annual review and Councillors were requested to forward any comments to the Clerk

## 11 Correspondence

- 11.1 The Council received a list of correspondence received for information.
- 11.2 Cllr Bomberg will be nominated for the GAPTC Executive Committee. **Action: Clerk.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm.

**Notice: The next meeting of Eastington Parish Council will be on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016. Anybody with an item they wish to bring to the attention of the Council, should forward details, in writing, to the Clerk to the Parish Council, no later than Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2016.**

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